

SENATE BILL 2687

By Crowe

AN ACT to amend Tennessee Code Annotated, Title 49, Chapter 4, Part 9, relative to application for postsecondary financial assistance from net lottery proceeds.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE:

SECTION 1. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-903(a), is amended by inserting the language ", for development of application forms for use by students applying for scholarships and grants," after the words "determination of eligibility of students".

SECTION 2. Tennessee Code Annotated, Section 49-4-906, is amended by deleting the section in its entirety and by substituting instead the following:

Except for the ASPIRE award under § 49-4-915, the Tennessee HOPE access grant under § 49-4-920 and the Tennessee HOPE scholarship for nontraditional students under § 49-4-931, eligibility for scholarships or grants awarded under this part shall not be restricted or limited by the adjusted gross income attributable to a student. Students applying for the ASPIRE award, the Tennessee HOPE access grant and the Tennessee HOPE scholarship for nontraditional students shall file a FAFSA with TSAC. TSAC shall develop a short application form for use by students who are applying for postsecondary financial assistance under this part the eligibility for which is not restricted or limited by adjusted gross income. The application developed by TSAC shall not require such students to provide any financial information to TSAC. However, TSAC shall include on the application information alerting low-income students to the benefits of filling out a FAFSA and encouraging them to do so. In developing the short form, TSAC shall strive to limit the area to be filled out to one (1) page.

SECTION 3. TSAC shall develop and implement the short application form required by this act in-house with existing staff within the existing budget for administration of the lottery scholarship programs. The short form shall be available for use in applying for scholarships and grants funded from net lottery proceeds no later the 2013-2014 academic year.

SECTION 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law, the public welfare requiring it.